MICHIGAN STATE NUMISMATIC SOCIETY FALL 2026 CONVENTION

Macomb County Community College, South Campus Expo Center, Building P, 14500 E. 12 Mile Rd., Warren, MI 48088

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, November 20, 21, 22, 2026

Exhibits at the Convention will be displayed in the following Classifications:

1. U.S. Coins.
2. U.S. Paper Items
3. World Coins
4. World Paper
5. Medals
6. Tokens
7. Miscellaneous
8. Juniors ages 8-17
9. Non-Competitive

Exhibit judging standards and maximum points are as follows:

Title and scope: 5 points
Basic Numismatic Information: 10 points
Special Numismatic Information: 15 points
Inspiration and Education: 10 points
Creativity and Originality: 10 points
Attractiveness: 10 points
Balance: 10 points
Completeness: 5 points
Degree of Difficulty: 10 points
Condition: 10 points
Rarity: 5 points

EXHIBITS SECTION SCHEDULE AND LOGISTICS

All times, schedules, logistics, and case limits are subject to change. In such cases the exhibitors will be notified.

1. Exhibit applications must be ***postmarked*** no later than **Monday, October 19, 2026** in order to qualify for the competitive classifications at the Convention. E-mail applications are also accepted with the same deadline. E-mail applications should be sent to the Exhibit Chairman with the subject line "MSNS Exhibits" at: **albionfp@hotmail.com**. A confirmation reply acknowledgment will be sent within three days. If this does not occur, please e-mail our chief judge Tom Dombrowski at tjdombrow@yahoo.com explaining the situation along with your application. (Note: On occasion, e-mails with application attachments from applicants have been filtered out as junk or spam by Hotmail and have not been received.)

2. Exhibitors may place their displays on **Friday, November 20, 2026 beginning** at **8:00 am.** through **5:30 pm** and on **Saturday, November 21, 2026 from 8:00 am to 10:00 am.** in order to be eligible for competition. **Exhibitors must obtain an official name badge upon entry and must wear/display it at all times while on the Convention floor. Exhibitors and/or judges cannot roam the bourse floor for buying/selling/looking before the Convention is open to the public, unless they have purchased an "Early Bird" pass.**

3. All exhibits must remain on display at the Convention for at least 24 continuous hours in order to qualify for awards. Exhibits must remain in place until **12:00 pm (NOON)** on **Sunday, November 22, 2026.** Exhibits must be removed by **3:00 p.m.** on **Sunday, November 22, 2026.**

4. Presentations of Exhibit Awards will be made on **Sunday morning, November 22, 2026** at a time to be published in the Convention Brochure.

STANDARD RULES FOR EXHIBITING

1. All exhibitors must be members of the Michigan State Numismatic Society. If not a member, you must join **prior** to the Convention. A membership application and further information is found on the www.michigancoinclub.org website. Write to: MSNS Membership, P.O. Box 264, Keego Harbor, MI 48320.

2. Only one entry per classification. No more than **10** total cases per exhibitor, and no more than **3** displays per exhibitor. If entering more than one display, exhibitors must file a separate application for each. All applications must be signed and dated. Entries sent by e-mail within the deadline, and with the necessary exhibit/contact information typed up will be accepted, but the exhibitor will still need to fill out an official application form and sign it for legal purposes; those should be subsequently sent to the Exhibit Chairman before the Convention. The signature of a parent or guardian is also required if the exhibitor is under 18 years of age.

3. Junior exhibitors (ages 8-17) should first enter one display in the Junior classification. A Junior exhibitor may compete with additional exhibits in the adult classifications. This provision may be suspended by the Exhibit Chairman or the Exhibits Committee at their discretion due to space limitations or other reasons. A Junior's age eligibility is determined by their age on the opening day of the Convention. The signature of a parent or guardian is required if the exhibitor is under 18 years of age. **Normally, Juniors must set up their own displays, except for a physical limitation or special circumstances approved by the Exhibit Chair. However, due to school days, we are allowing a proxy person to install a Junior's display. In such cases, the Exhibit Chair needs to be notified in advance of the Convention with the name of the proxy person installer.**

4. The Exhibit Chair and/or Chief Judge have the discretion to combine or split classifications; in such cases the exhibitor will be notified. If an exhibit contains items belonging to more than one classification, at least 65% of the items must be from the classification to which it is entered. If it is less than 65%, then the display should be entered in the Miscellaneous classification. The Exhibit Chair and/or Chief Judge have the discretion by mutual agreement of changing the classification of a display if it is determined that the exhibit was improperly classified. The Exhibit Chair and Chief Judge, at their discretion, may confer with the exhibitor before making their determination. An exhibitor may not request a classification change at the Convention. The Exhibit Chair and/or Chief Judge may also combine classifications due to a lack of competition in a particular classification. In such cases, the exhibitor will be notified.

5. Exhibit material is displayed in a standard 34 x 22 x 3" (33 ½" inside long **x** 21 ½" inside wide **x** 2 ½" inside tall) cases which will be arranged horizontally and provided by MSNS. An exhibitor may also bring their own cases if so-indicated on the exhibit application.

6. Other-sized cases, panels, and vertical displays are allowed at the discretion of the Exhibit Chair. In such instances however, any special requirements (including other-sized case measurements) need to be submitted in advance with the exhibit application so proper logistical and layout needs can be arranged.

7. No titles, signs, placards, or numismatic materials of any kind may be placed outside the exhibit cases. Switches or buttons intended to operate lights or educational displays in the cases or magnifying glasses provided to assist exhibit readers may be mounted on the table or on the cases, given that nothing extends more than one inch above the top (glass) surface of a case. Outside lights are not permitted.

8. All material shown must be the personal property of the exhibitor, which may include property owned jointly with a spouse, or in an exhibitor's trust.

9. **Proxy Agent**. Normally, the displays must be prepared and set up/taken down by the exhibitor. **We do allow proxy placements by a person designated by the exhibitor**. The Exhibit Chair should be notified by the exhibitor in advance of the Convention of any designated proxy agent. A special proxy agent form is also available if you so-choose, but not required.

10. **No items are to be displayed that are in violation of United States laws or regulations**. The regulations as provided in the U.S. Secret Service website state: *"The Counterfeit Detection Act of 1991, Public Law 102-550, in Section 411 of Title 31 of the Code of Federal Regulations, permits color illustrations of U.S. currency provided: The illustration is of a size less than three-fourths or more than one and one-half, in linear dimension, of each part of the item illustrated. The illustration [must] be one-sided."*

In addition, under "Other Obligations and Securities," the regulations state: *"Photographic or other likenesses of other United States obligations and securities and foreign currencies are permissible for any non-fraudulent*

purpose, provided the items are reproduced in black and white and are less than three-quarters or greater than one-and-one-half times the size, in linear dimension, or any part of the original item being reproduced."

In the event a violation of this Rule No. 10 is discovered prior to the beginning of the judging process, an exhibitor must remove the offending material upon being notified of the violation. If the exhibitor cannot be reached in time, or a violation of this Rule is not discovered until the judging process is underway, a total disqualification will result, even if the violation is unintentional. Either way, the offending material must be removed or covered over. Application of this rule will be administered by the Chief Judge.

11. Copies (in color or in black-and-white) of foreign paper money/items that are no longer legal tender (for example, German government inflation notes of the 1920s) are allowed, as such copies are allowed at ANA conventions and are not considered a violation of Secret Service rules (see Rule 10 above). There are no size limitations. They must however, be so-marked or indicated with the word "copy," either in the text or captions, or on the photograph/reproduction itself. Similarly, copies/scans of paper numismatic items such as obsolete banknotes are also allowed and can be full size, but they too must be so-marked or indicated with the word "copy," either in the text or captions, or on the photograph/reproduction itself.

12. Photographs or photocopies or scans of metallic numismatic items such as coins, tokens, or medals, either in color or in black-and-white, are generally not considered copies and do not have to have the word "copy" attached to them. Illustrations lifted directly from other sources should be directly attributed to those sources. If photographs displayed to represent an item are not taken of the actual items being displayed, then that should be indicated in the text. There are no size limitations as to photographs (with the exception of Rule No. 10), as that would be covered under the criteria of creativity, originality, attractiveness, and balance on the judging form.

13. Forged, spurious, or counterfeit material or replica copies may not be displayed unless such items are appropriately labeled and are displayed for educational purposes only, **and they do not violate U.S. laws (see rule No. 10)**. In the event a violation of this Rule No. 13 is discovered prior to the beginning of the judging process, an exhibitor must remove the offending material upon being notified of the violation. If the exhibitor cannot be reached in time, or a violation of this Rule is not discovered until the judging process is underway, a total disqualification will result, even if the violation is unintentional. Either way, the offending material must be removed or covered over. Enforcement of this rule will be administered by the Chief Judge and/or Exhibit Chair.

14. The exhibit text should be in the exhibitor's own words, except when using direct quotes as indicated. Exhibitors, in preparing their texts, may choose to lift information verbatim from one or more sources. For details judged as "basic numismatic information," such as mintage, designer, composition, etc., it is sufficient that sources for such information will be shown in a list of references. For text relating more to "special numismatic information," such as historical, biographical, or economic matters, it is best for exhibitors to present information in their own words. Text or illustrations lifted directly from other sources should be directly attributed to those sources. Instances where material is presented as "original" that has been copied from other sources without attribution will result in significant point deductions.

15. The name or photograph or identity of the competitive exhibitor may not appear in the exhibit, except as an author in a bibliographic reference, which will be sufficiently general in that the exhibitor cannot be linked to the exhibit by that reference.

16. No exhibit may contain any current advertising of items therein for sale.

17. Judging procedures, including judging times, are set by the MSNS Exhibits Committee and Chief Judge, according to the needs and logistics of each Convention. Judging will be guided by the rules of the American Numismatic Association. **The decisions of the judges are final.** Competitive exhibitors are not permitted to attend their exhibits while they are being judged.

18. The Exhibit Chairman and Chief Judge, and members of their immediate families may not place competitive exhibits. No MSNS board member nor MSNS officer may enter competitive exhibits. Non-competitive exhibits are encouraged and are still eligible for the People's Choice award. MSNS board members and officers may still receive the same judges' appreciation awards given to exhibit judges.

19. Applications for Non-competitive displays should be made on a regular exhibit application and marked "Non-competitive." Exhibit applications received after the application deadline may be allowed at the discretion of the Exhibit Chairman in the Non-competitive classification.

20. First, Second and Third Place awards may be given for each competitive classification. An exhibit must earn an average of at least 80 scoring points to merit a First Place; 70 points for a Second; and 65 points for

a Third. An exhibit at an MSNS Convention which has previously been entered into competition three times, or previously won two First awards, or won one Best-of-Show award may not be entered in further competition.

21. A "People's Choice Award" will be given at each convention. All displays (except past People's Choice Award winners), both competitive and non-competitive, are eligible for the People's Choice Award. The winner will receive a certificate or other award as determined by the Exhibits Committee.

22. There will be separate Best-of-Show awards: An Adult Best-of-Show will be selected from the First Place exhibits in the Adult Classes 1 through 7. A Junior Best-of-Show will be awarded to the First Place Junior exhibit, except if the Junior class is split by ages. In such as situation, a winner will be selected from the First Place Junior exhibits.

23. The Best-of-Show awards at MSNS Conventions approved by the board of directors of MSNS are as follows: Spring Best-of-Show: Irving Moskovitz Memorial. Spring Junior Best-of-Show: Al and Ann Bobrofsky Award. Fall Best-of-Show: Paul Schilling Memorial. Fall Junior Best-of-Show: Florence Schook Memorial. The "Exhibit of the Year" awards have been discontinued as of January 1, 2024.

24. A display may be entered into competition a total of three (3) times; after that it is ineligible for competition. A display that has won two (2) First Place awards is ineligible for further competition. A display that has won a Best-of-Show award is ineligible for further competition.

25. All exhibits are displayed at the risk of the owner. Each exhibitor must agree to and sign a waiver and release from liability statement on the exhibit application which states: "I hereby release the Michigan State Numismatic Society, all participating clubs and their officers, members, committees, agents and employees, in their official and/or individual personal capacities, from any liability for loss, damage, or destruction through negligence or otherwise, of any numismatic material, and for personal injury and property damage of any kind, including judging results, which the undersigned may suffer or incur before, during or after this Convention. The foregoing shall not however, limit the liability of any individual who may personally be guilty of theft, willful damage or destruction. I also agree to allow my name and/or photograph to be published along with other exhibitors in The Michmatist and/or other numismatic publications. I certify that this display has not previously competed three times at MSNS, or won two First Place awards at MSNS, or won a Best-of-Show at MSNS. **I have read and hereby agree to abide by the exhibit rules, waiver, and release from liability statement.**"